AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A <u>computer-implemented</u> method for enhancing performance of a computer system, comprising:

electronically deriving relationships over time between monitored system variables and monitored performance of said computer system;

automatically generating a number of rules based on said derived relationships, wherein said number of rules are generated without requiring human interaction; and

adjusting at least one of said system variables based on said generated number of rules to enhance the performance of said computer system.

2. (Currently Amended) A <u>computer-implemented</u> method as in claim 1, wherein said generating said number of rules is based at least in part on a performance goal.

3. (Currently Amended) A <u>computer-implemented</u> method as in claim 1, wherein said generating said number of rules is based at least in part on current values of said system variables, and wherein said number of rules recommend incremental changes to said system variables.

4. (Currently Amended) A <u>computer-implemented</u> method as in claim 1, wherein said deriving said relationships, said generating said number of rules, and said adjusting said at least one system variable, are iterative.

5. (Currently Amended) A <u>computer-implemented</u> method as in claim 1, further comprising acquiring data for said system variables and the performance of said computer system, wherein said acquired data is used for deriving said relationships.

6. (Currently Amended) A <u>computer-implemented</u> method as in claim 5, wherein acquiring said data comprises:

gathering said data over time; and

logging said gathered data, wherein said relationships are derived based on said logged data.

7. (Currently Amended) A <u>computer-implemented</u> method as in claim 6, wherein said gathering said data is at discrete points in time.

8. (Currently Amended) A <u>computer-implemented</u> method as in claim 6, wherein said gathering said data is in response to an event on said computer system.

9. (Currently Amended) A <u>computer-implemented</u> method as in claim 5, wherein said ~~cquiring~~ <u>acquiring</u> said data comprises acquiring at least one of the following types of data: configuration data, workload data, and performance metric data.

10. (Currently Amended) A <u>computer-implemented</u> method as in claim 1, further comprising identifying a number of applications on said computer system having variables that affect the performance of said computer system.

11. (Currently Amended) A <u>computer-implemented</u> method as in claim 1, further comprising identifying a number of subsystem components on said computer system having variables that affect the performance of said computer system.

12. (Currently Amended) A <u>computer-implemented</u> method for enhancing performance of a computer system, comprising:

electronically deriving a plurality of relationships over time between a plurality of monitored system variables and monitored performance of said computer system;

automatically generating a plurality of rules based on said plurality of derived relationships, wherein said plurality of rules are generated without requiring human interaction; and

adjusting at least one of said system variables based on said generated plurality of rules to enhance the performance of said computer system.

13. (Currently Amended) A <u>computer-implemented</u> method as in claim 12, wherein the performance of said computer system is based on a plurality of performance metrics.

14. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for enhancing performance of a computer system, comprising:

computer readable storage media;

computer readable program code stored on said computer readable storage media, comprising:

program code for deriving relationships between system variables and the performance of said computer system;

program code for automatically generating a number of rules based on said derived relationships, wherein said number of rules are generated without requiring human interaction; and

program code for adjusting at least one of said system variables based on said generated number of rules to enhance the performance of said computer system.

15. (Original) An apparatus as in claim 14, wherein said number of rules are generated by said program code based at least in part on a performance goal.

16. (Original) An apparatus as in claim 14, further comprising program code for iteratively deriving relationships between said system variables and the performance of said computer system, and iteratively generating a number of rules based on said derived relationships when an adjustment is made to said at least one system variable.

17. (Original) An apparatus as in claim 14, further comprising program code for acquiring data for said system variables and the performance of said computer system.

18. (Original) An apparatus as in claim 17, wherein at least some of said data is acquired from a configuration file.

19. (Original) An apparatus as in claim 17, wherein at least some of said data is acquired by monitoring said computer system.

20. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as in claim 17, wherein said program code for acquiring said data comprises:

program code for gathering said data over time;

program code for logging said gathered data, wherein said program code for deriving derives said relationships based on said logged data.

21. (Original) An apparatus as in claim 17, wherein said program code for acquiring said data acquires at least one of the following types of data: configuration data, workload data, and performance metric data.

22. (Original) An apparatus as in claim 14, further comprising program code for identifying a number of applications on said computer system having variables that affect the performance of said computer system.

23. (Original) An apparatus as in claim 14, further comprising program code for identifying a number of subsystem components of said computer system having variables that affect the performance of said computer system.

24. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for enhancing performance of a computer system, comprising:

means for electronically deriving relationships over time between monitored system variables and monitored performance of said computer system;

means for automatically generating a number of rules based on said derived relationships, wherein said generated number of rules are generated without requiring human interaction; and

means for adjusting at least one of said system variables based on said generated number of rules to enhance the performance of said computer system.

25. (Original) An apparatus as in claim 24, further comprising means for acquiring data for said system variables and the performance of said system.

26. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as in claim 25, wherein said acquiring means comprises:

means for gathering said data over time; and

means for logging said data, wherein said relationships are derived based on said logged data.